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THORP'S

NEW YORK SYSTEM

OF

DRESS CUTTING.

Invented by

Theodore Thorp.

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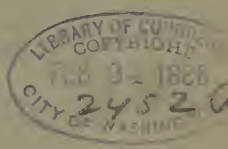

CAUTION.---NOTICE.

The Public are hereby notified that any infringement of this System will be promptly prosecuted in the United States Courts.

A SYSTEM

FOR

Cutting Ladies' Garments,

INVENTED BY

THEODORE THORP.

This System consists of Instruction and Measure Books, Waist Scales, Square, Patterns and Sleeve Mode.

PRICE LIST.

ONE SYSTEM COMPLETE WITH INSTRUCTIONS, - - - - - - $25.00

REMITTANCES

Should be made by Draft, Check, Post Office Money Order or Registered Letter. Money sent in unregistered letters is at the sender's risk. In ordering be particular in writing the name of Town, County and State; also, sign your name in a plain hand.

All communications should be addressed to

THEODORE THORP,

242 Bleecker Street, NEW YORK, N. Y.

In the near future Mr. Thorp will open an establishment in New York, and the exact date will be published in "HARPERS BAZAR."

Dressmakers are cordially invited to call, as he will keep on hand a choice selection of IMPORTED FASHION MAGAZINES, PAPER PATTERNS, ETC, and will also conduct a PURCHASING AGENCY that Dressmakers can positively depend upon.

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Directions for Measurements.

Tie a string around the waist and roll it down, which will indicate the natural length of the back.

LENGTH OF BACK—From the prominent neck bone at the back of the neck to the string.

UNDER ARM—Under the arm, high up and then down to the string.

WIDTH OF BACK—From center of the back to the armhole, let the lady swing her arm backward, then measure in the crease.

CHEST—From the center of front, above the fullest part to the center of the back over the shoulder blade, to be taken tight.

WAIST—Around the smaller part of the waist, tight.

LENGTH OF FRONT—From the neck in front to the string at the waist

TOP OF DART—Measure from the string up under the fullest part of the bust.

BUST—From the fullest part of the bust to the center of back over the shoulder blade, quite loose. If the chest measures 18 and the bust 19, mark in the book 1 inch.

SLEEVE—By raising the arm in form of a square and measure from the center of the back to the elbow, by deducting the previous measure of the back you have the actual length of sleeve required. Next measure around the arm up high, also around the elbow. For the length, from elbow to wrist, add 9 inches for short and 10 inches for a long sleeve.

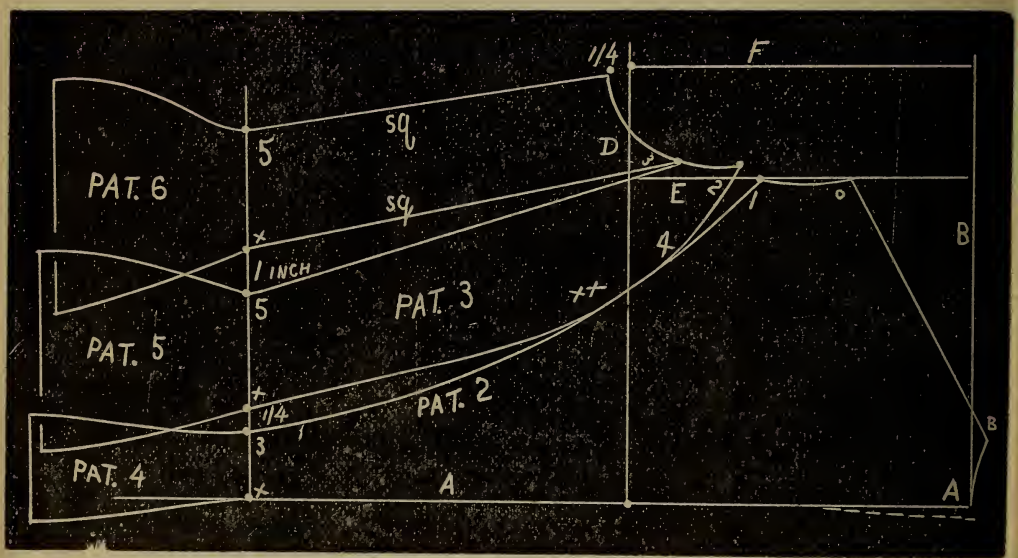

1/4
F
5
sq
D
PAT. 6
sq
E
B
1 INCH
5
PAT. 3
PAT. 5
PAT. 2
1/4
3
PAT. 4
A
A
B

DIAGRAM No. 1.

Place the square on the paper with the long arm towards you, and the short end about one inch from the top, then draw a line the length of the long arm and mark it A; next draw a line by the short arm and mark it B, without moving the square; dot on line A *the length of back* (see measure book). Drop the short arm of the square to this dot and draw the waist line by the short arm, then mark it C.

Dot above line C, the *under arm measure*, and draw line D the length of the short arm, without moving the square dot on line D the *width of back* also one half of the *chest measure*.

Take a waist scale, corresponding in number with the actual *waist measure*, and place the scale on line C, with the cross on line A, then dot at No. 3.

Dot 1-4 of an inch from No. 3, then place the cross on this dot and dot at No 5. Dot about 1 inch from No. 5 and place the cross on this dot and dot at No. 5 again.

Dot under line F 1-4 of an inch. Next take pattern No. 1 and place lines D and E over D and E on the draft, then curve from o to 1, then from 2 to 3 and from 3 down to the 1-4 inch dot under F.

Next dot at o, 1, 2 and 3. Take pattern No. 2 and place A and B on pattern at the point where A and B join, then curve from line A to letter B for the neck.

Take the square and draw a line for the shoulder from dot B to O on line E.

Next place figure 1 on pattern No. 2, over dot 1 on draft, hold it tight at this place and move the bottom of pattern to dot No. 3 on the waist line, then curve for the back.

Take pattern No. 3 and place 1-4 over the 1-4 dot on the waist line and curve from back of pattern to xx near line D; next place figure 2 over dot 2 at the armhole and curve to figure 4 near line D.

Place figure 3 over dot 3 at the armhole, with the bottom of the pattern at dot No. 5 on the waist line, then curve for the front of the side-body.

Next draw a straight line with the square from dot No. 3 at the armhole to the 1 inch dot on the waist line, also a straight line from the 1-4 inch dot under line F to the remaining No. 5 dot on the waist line. For the skirts take pattern No. 4 and place the top even with line C, with the cross on pattern at line A, then curve for the back; next move the pattern forward, with dot 3 even with dot 3 on the draft, then curve for the front of the skirt.

Take pattern No. 5 and place the 1-4 dot at the 1-4 dot on draft and then curve for the back, for the front place figure 5 at dot 5 and curve.

Take pattern No. 6 and place 1 inch on pattern, at the 1 inch dot on draft, then curve for the back, move the pattern forward with figure 5 at dot 5 and curve for the front.

For persons that have round shoulders add as indicated by the dotted line at the top of line A.

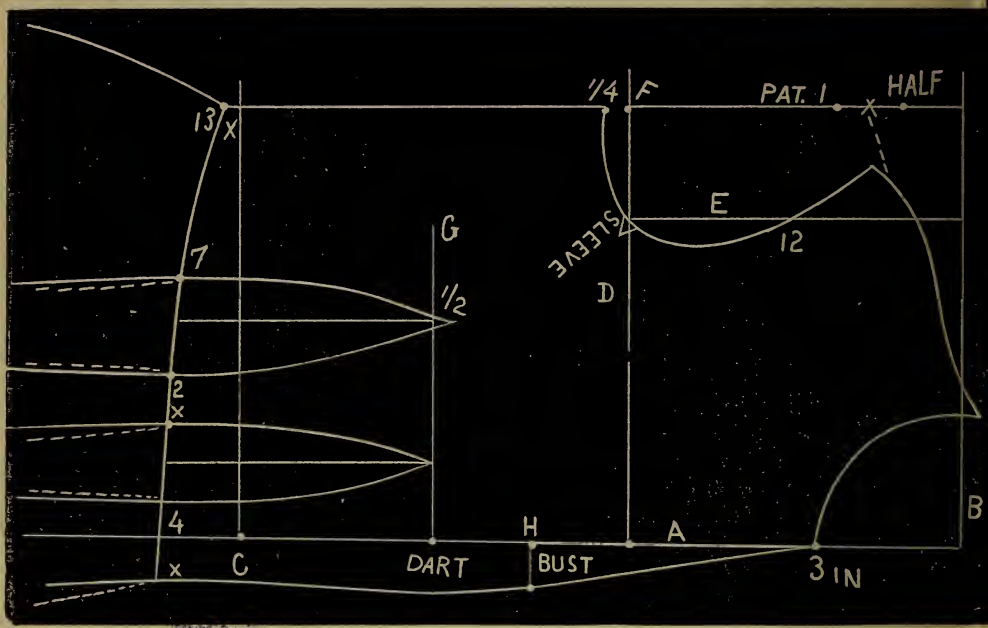

1/4
F
PAT. 1
HALF
13
X
E
SLEEVE
12
G
7
1/2
D
2
X
4
H
A
B
x
C
DART
BUST
3 IN

DIAGRAM NO. 2.

To Commence the front draw lines A, B, C, D, E and F, using the same measures that made the back, also dot 1-4 inch under line F. Next take pattern No. 1 and place lines D and E over lines D and F and dot at the letter O, then dot half way between this dot and the line B, then dot half way again between these two dots for the shoulder seam. Dot on line A from B 3 inches always for the neck.

Take pattern No. 7 and place 6 1-2 dot at the 3 inch dot on line A, hold it fast at this point, but move the pattern until the dot at the three crosses is on line B, then curve for the neck from the 3 inch dot up to the top of the pattern. [NOTE—For a small neck, dot at 6; medium, 6 1-2; large, 7; extra large, 7 1-2.

Place your finger over dot 10 on pattern and move the opposite corner to the middle dot on line F, then curve for the shoulder seam, now measure the shoulder of the back and dot for the shoulder of the front, making it 1-4 of an inch shorter than the back.

To curve the armhole use pattern No. 7 by placing the sleeve notch where lines D and E join, with line E on pattern over E on draft, then curve from the notch up to figure 12, place finger over 12 and move the pattern until the top edge rests or points to dot made for the length of shoulder, then finish the curve to that dot.

To finish the armhole place the finger at the notch and move the pattern until it rests on the 1-4 inch dot under line F, then curve.

Draw a straight line for the side seam from the 1-4 inch dot under line F to line C, next measure the length of the side seam of the back and make the front the same length. It frequently comes under line C about 1-4 of an inch. Dot for the *length of front* from the 3 inch dot on line A to the length required. Take pattern No. 7 and curve for the waist line from 13 at the side seam over and through the dot on line A to the end of pattern.

Dot from the waist line just made up on line A, the *top of dart*, and draw line G half way cross the pattern. Dot half way between line G and D and draw line H, dot on line H the *Bust measure.*

To curve the front draw a line with the square from the 3 inch dot to the dot on line H, then continue down straight to the bottom of the pattern. After this, lines A and C ceases to be of any account in the draft. Take the waist scale and place it on the waist line with the cross on the front line and dot at No. 4. Reverse the scale and place the cross at the side seam, then dot at No. 7.

Next place the pencil on the draft half way between the dots 4 and 7, then place No. 1 of the scale up to the pencil. Don't dot where the pencil is to the number one, but dot at the cross and No. 2. Draw a line from the center of each dart up to line G; take pattern No. 1 and curve for the first dart up to line G; for the second dart curve in the same manner, only extend the dart 1-2 inch above line G.

For the skirt of the darts draw straight lines down from the dots of each dart and then curve as indicated in the diagram. The curves are about 1-4 of an inch, but for persons very full in front curve more.

For the skirt of the side seam use No. 6, with the top even with line C. Curve the center of the front below the waist as indicated.

Make a notch for the sleeve, measure the armhole all way round and mark the size on the front, then draft a sleeve to fit.

Directions for Cutting and Basting.

Cut off all paper outside of back, side-body and under armgore; cut direct on the lines, also cut out the front in the same manner, with a notch for the sleeve.

Place the whole front on lining with the edge, from 3 inch dot to line H, straight with the selvage, and allow about 1 1-2 inches for lap; place weights on top to keep from moving. Then trace accurately at the edge of the draft, including the darts.

Cut out the lining, but allow for seams outside of all the tracings, with extra width on the shoulders and side seam. This makes all seams bias from the fullest part of the bust to the waist.

To trace the back, place line A straight with the selvage, then trace line A, neck, shoulder and armhole, to the first dot, and then down through dot 3 on the waist line to the bottom of the skirt, also trace the waist line, remove the draft and cut out the back, but allow for seams outside of tracing, with extra width on shoulder.

Place the pattern on lining for side-body, with the waist line straight with the cross threads, then trace front and back of side-body, armhole, skirt and waist line. Remove the draft, cut out side-body, but allow for seams outside of tracing.

For under-arm gore trace in the same manner, but allow an extra width for seam of front.

To cut the outside material, lay the linings on the cloth and cut the same in size—front, back and under-arm gore. Baste the lining and outside together, with one or two rows in the center of each, then baste on the tracings all way round.

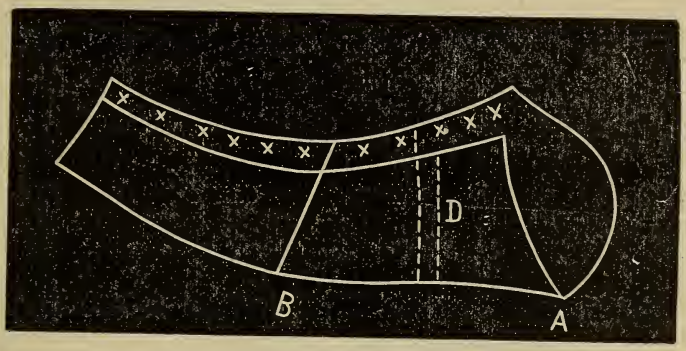
To baste the seams together, commence all seams at the top and baste down to the bottom of the skirt. It is not necessary to have the waist lines meet.

In basting the shoulder seams, full the back the 1-4 inch allowed, and for very thin persons, full a half inch.

Before basting the darts together cut them through the center.

In basting the lap fold the goods one-quarter of an inch outside of the tracing, on the buttonhole side. The buttons and holes should be direct on the tracing, this is important.

Diagram No. 3.—Sleeve.



If the armhole should measure 15 1-2 draft from the mode at 16.

Commence on line A at 16 and dot at all the holes to letter B. For the under dot at 16 and continue to letter C. Next curve from B to D also dot at the holes from C to E.

For the back seam dot from 16 to 16 at the elbow and then continue down to the wrist. Remove the mode and curve through all the dots.

Refer to the measure book. If the back is 6 1-2 place 6 1-2 on the tape line at A and measure towards line B and dot for the elbow, then add 9 inches for a short and 10 inches for a long arm. Refer to measure book for size around the arm, then increase or decrease the outside seam to the size required by measuring first the under and then the upper. See dotted lines marked D; dot for the elbow in the same manner, then curve through these dots down to the wrist. A less troublesome way is to make the sleeve large around and then fit the back seam. When trying on never change the inside seam or sleeve head.

Place line F straight with the lining and trace accurately at the edge of pattern and *allow seams in all places outside of the tracing.*

Stitch the upper, when it is marked with xxxx, until it becomes the same length of the under.

To baste, commence at the top and baste down even.

To baste the sleeve in, fasten the under seam to the notch in front and the back seam to the coat seam of the back. For the under part, commence at the back and base even half way, then gather the remaining, if the sleeve is larger. For the upper, baste even to the shoulder seam, then commence in front and full slightly for two inches, then gather whatever fulness is left.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The principle of this system is drafting from actual measures, except the waist line, which is accomplished by a set of graduated scales.

The waist scales are printed on stout oil board, representing a series of scales, and for use the sheet must be cut into strips, each bearing its separate number.

By making a scale holder they can be kept together with less liability of losing, and when drafting, the one desired can be selected in a moment by glancing at the figures on the end, which are numbered 20, 20½, 21, 21½, and so on. Thus the scale bearing the number 20 at the end is used in drafting a waist of that size, combining expediency and accuracy.

The patterns are merely to trace the curves of the neck, armhole, back, side-body and skirts.

For silk, use one-half inch larger scale, velvet one inch larger.

To make the darts, pitch back at the top, slant the center line in that direction.

To make the front dart smaller than the second, move the two numbers on the scale forward a little.

In drafting a pattern, any size or style, there should always be 13 numbers of the scale on each draft.

For a person that is full in front below the waist, curve the darts, also the front, outwards.

Great care should be observed in stitching the seams accurately, and the fitting should be arranged to allow for stitching either on the outside or the inside of the basting.

Cut a notch in the front edge of the under-arm gore. It is hard to tell which is the front or back after the material is cut.

All seams should be opened and the edges neatly overcasted.

In cutting velvet, or goods that are figured or have a nap or pile, be careful to cut all the parts the same way of the goods, that is, with the nap running downward, and figure or pile of velvet running upward or downward, whichever is preferred. Velvets with the pile running upward have a much nicer appearance than running in the opposite direction. In cutting stripes or plaids for the back be sure they match, and use special care that the side-body and back correspond. This can always be accomplished by moving the goods a little one way or the other.

Striped material, cut bias in the back, has a tendency to make the waist appear smaller, also the same effect in front at the waist.

To make a loose house dress or sacque, draft in the same manner as for tight-fitting waist, excepting at the waist-line, use one inch larger scale for a medium; to make it very loose, use two inches larger, and so on. In making an outside, tight-

fitting jacket, draft the same, only use a half inch larger scale, and instead of tracing, mark the outline with chalk, that will make sufficiently loose to fit over a dress.

To eradicate the dart, seams extending half way down the skirts of wrappers, etc., pin up the dart in the lining about one-half; then place on the outside material smooth, and in basting the darts together, they will be full size on the lining only, and the seams will extend only six inches or so below the waist in the outside material.

Buy manilla paper, twenty pounds weight, 24x36 in size.

If any of the following defects appear in the dresses when fitting, try to remedy the cause in your second dress by altering the figures in the measure book.

Always take a short measure for length of back, as it is easier to make longer. If the dress is not high enough under the arm, it will interfere in raising the arm when the sleeve is in.

If the waist measure is taken too loose, the dress will be loose all round, and up to the arm.

Always take the armhole measure in even inches, 14, 15, 16, and so on.

Always commence to pin or button at the waist.

Persons with a large waist and small bust must have small curves on the darts.

The width for the bottom of the skirts are sufficient in size except for large bustles, in that case spring the skirt at the back or both back and side-body. If long skirts are necessary extend the lines on the same angle as drafted.

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